

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035330

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS, TOSEC 324, WHITE HOUSE PLS PASS SAM 86970

FOLLOWING REPEAT STOCKHOLM 776 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DATED
14 FEBRUARY 1975:

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 776

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, BTRA, SW

SUBJECT: REQUEST BY SWEDISH BUSINESS DELEGATION HEADED BY CROWN
PRINCE BERTIL TO MEET WITH VICE PRESIDENT

REF: STOCKHOLM 675

1. AN EARLY AND FAVORABLE DECISION TO SCHEDULE MEETING BETWEEN
VICE PRESIDENT AND CROWN PRINCE BERTIL AND THE SWEDISH BUSINESS
GROUP HE HEADS WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY ADVANCE US INTERESTS IN
SWEDEN IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY THE SOCIALIST
FOREIGN MINISTER'S PROVOCATIVE VIETNAM SPEECH AND THE
RESULTING SPECULATION LINKING THE SPEECH WITH THE INABILITY
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PAGE 02 STATE 035330

GF THE WHITE HOUSE TO SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH BERTIL.

2. LAST NIGHT AT A STATE DINNER AT THE PALACE, KING CARL GUSTAF REQUESTED FOUR OUT OF THE TEN AMBASSADORS PRESENT TO TALK WITH HIM SEPARATELY, NAMELY THE AMBASSADORS OF ISRAEL, NIGERIA, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND MYSELF. THE KING OPENED HIS CONVERSATION WITH ME BY SAYING THAT HE THOUGHT THE BERTIL GROUP SHOULD CARRY THROUGH WITH ITS SCHEDULED TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES. I REPLIED THAT PRINCE BERTIL AND THE SWEDISH BUSINESS LEADERS HAD MANY FRIENDS IN THE US AND COULD BE ASSURED A WARM WELCOME AND A REWARDING EXPERIENCE.

3. THE KING SAID THAT HE AND PRINCE BERTIL, OF COURSE, MUST BE ABOVE POLITICS, THAT NEVERTHELESS HE WAS CONCERNED WITH GOOD SWEDISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, AND THAT BERTIL HAS BEEN PUT IN A DIFFICULT POSITION.

4. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD THIS PERFECTLY, THAT US-SWEDISH RELATIONS HAD BEEN GOOD, BUT THAT STATEMENTS DAMAGING TO THESE GOOD RELATIONS OUGHT TO BE AVOIDED. THE KING SAID HE AGREED. THE KING SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT, IN ANY CASE, NO MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE BERTIL GROUP HAD BEEN SCHEDULED. THIS I CONFIRMED.

5. I BELIEVE THAT THE POLITICAL FORCES IN SWEDEN HOSTILE TO US IN VIETNAM WOULD BE PLEASED TO SEE THE BERTIL/ BUSINESS LEADERS' VISIT SOURED OR EVEN CANCELLED. CONVERSELY, THE GESTURE OF A MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER WOULD HEARTEN AND STRENGTHEN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ELEMENTS IN SWEDEN WHOSE COMBINED STRENGTH WILL BEST SUPPORT AMERICAN VALUES AND INTERESTS IN SWEDEN. STRAUSS-KHANE UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, BTRA, SW, US, (ROCKEFELLER, NELSON A), (BERTIL, CROWN PRINCE)
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